



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 5699

LCO No. 3414

03414HB05699HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAMS
ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-80 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 (a) The commissioner, upon receipt of an application for aid, shall
4 promptly and with due diligence make an investigation, such
5 investigation to be completed within forty-five days after receipt of the
6 application or within sixty days after receipt of the application in the
7 case of an application in which a determination of disability must be
8 made. If an application for an award is not acted on within forty-five
9 days after the filing of an application, or within sixty days in the case
10 of an application in which a determination of disability must be made,
11 the applicant may apply to the commissioner for a hearing in
12 accordance with sections 17b-60 and 17b-61. The commissioner shall
13 grant aid only if [he] the commissioner finds the applicant eligible
14 therefor, in which case [he] the commissioner shall grant aid in such
15 amount, determined in accordance with levels of payments established
16 by the commissioner, as is needed in order to enable the applicant to

17 support himself, or, in the case of temporary family assistance, to
18 enable the relative to support such dependent child or children and
19 himself, in health and decency, including the costs of such medical
20 care as [he] the commissioner deems necessary and reasonable, not in
21 excess of the amounts set forth in the various fee schedules
22 promulgated by the [Commissioner of Social Services] commissioner
23 for medical, dental and allied services and supplies or the charges
24 made for comparable services and supplies to the general public,
25 whichever is less, and the cost of necessary hospitalization as is
26 provided in section 17b-239, over and above hospital insurance or
27 other such benefits, including workers' compensation and claims for
28 negligent or wilful injury. The commissioner, subject to the provisions
29 of subsection (b) of this section, shall in determining need, take into
30 consideration any available income and resources of the individual
31 claiming assistance. The commissioner shall make periodic
32 investigations to determine eligibility and may, at any time, modify,
33 suspend or discontinue an award previously made when such action is
34 necessary to carry out the provisions of the state supplement program,
35 medical assistance program, temporary family assistance program,
36 state-administered general assistance program or food stamps
37 program. The parent or parents of any child for whom aid is received
38 under the temporary family assistance program and any beneficiary
39 receiving assistance under the state supplement program shall be
40 conclusively presumed to have accepted the provisions of sections 17b-
41 93, 17b-94 and 17b-95.

42 (b) (1) In making determinations for initial or continued eligibility
43 for any program operated or administered by the Department of Social
44 Services, the commissioner shall, to the extent permitted by federal
45 law, exclude as income to a program applicant or program beneficiary,
46 any sums attributable to the annual inflation adjustment in Social
47 Security income.

48 [(b)] (2) The commissioner shall disregard any earned income of a
49 child who is a student in determining the eligibility, standard of need

50 and amount of assistance of a family in the [TFA] temporary family
 51 assistance program.

52 (c) No person shall be eligible for the state supplement program
 53 whose assets as defined by the commissioner exceed sixteen hundred
 54 dollars or, if living with a spouse, whose combined assets exceed
 55 twenty-four hundred dollars.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section | July 1, 2005 | 17b-80 |

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Commissioner of Social Services when making determinations for initial or continued eligibility for any program operated or administered by the Department of Social Services, to exclude as income to a program applicant or program beneficiary, any sums attributable to the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. O'BRIEN, 24th Dist.

H.B. 5699